

ALBUQUERQUE MORNING JOURNAL

TWENTY-SEVENTH YEAR

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1905.

By Carrier, 60c a Y.
By Mail, \$5.00 a Y.
La Voce del Pueblo
Las Vegas N. M.
PRICE 5 CENTS

LOBBY HAS ABSOLUTELY NO SCRUPLES

"Beware of Arizona Mining Stock" Says Wellman.

CORRESPONDENT DECLARES
MAGNATES OWN TERRITORY

Characterizes Statehood Opposition
as Most Insidious and Dangerous on Record.

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Walter Wellman, writing from Washington to the Record-Herald, says:

Lobbies are thick in the corridors of the big, white national statehood these days. There is the railroad lobby, well and persistently maintained. But the most strenuous and dangerous, as well as the most picturesque lobby of all is the mine owners' lobby from Arizona, here fighting statehood for that territory. It is picturesque because of the bold methods it employs, and because it has at least two United States senators among its owners and backers. It is dangerous because of the possibility that grave scandals may result from its operations. It is a lobby with hundreds of millions of dollars back of it. The agents and manipulators of its schemes are too smart to offer outright bribes. But they have mining stock for sale—stock which is sure to earn a big profit—stock which will "pay big to all who get in on the ground floor. And just now we are letting a little of it out to our friends."

Senators and representatives who value their good names should beware of the fellows who have Arizona mining stock to sell. Take warning from the fate of Senators Burton and Mitchell and the Oregon congressmen. Some day there may be a congressional investigation of Arizona mines and speculations and stock sales. Men who are caught owning such securities will not be comfortable.

Cause of the Caucus.
It was knowledge of the operations of this mine owners' lobby that led the leaders of the house to call the caucus on statehood which was held. Speaker Cannon and his lieutenants wanted to line members up on the question in order to defeat the machinations of the lobby and also to protect members against the insidious influence that might be brought to bear upon them. It is not often that a lobby is able to fill the minds of party leaders with alarm for the safety of their stock. The Arizona operators may take a little pride in this achievement, even if they are not successful in preventing statehood. As energetic and courageous members of the third house, they have established a record, and men who would engage in such an enterprise are naturally of the sort who would take pride in even that much of a success.

Own the Territory.
It seems rather strange that the rich mine owners of Arizona should be here fighting statehood, either single or joint, but the reason for it is not far to seek. They own the territory now. They run it. They are lords of the estate. Naturally they do not want to run any risks by a change to statehood. These mining corporations have had things their own way all along the line, but in no particular so emphatically as in the assessed valuation of their property upon which they are called to pay taxes. For instance, the Tombstone Consolidated Mining company is a corporation in Arizona that has put out \$15,000,000 worth of bonds, of which amount \$6,000,000 already have been sold. They bear interest at the rate of 6 per cent and this interest has been promptly paid. This great property is assessed at \$79,000.

The United Verde.
Then there is the United Verde Copper company, mainly the property of Senator Clark, of Montana. It has been estimated that the copper mines owned by this company have been yielding about \$10,000,000 annually for some years, and that there is \$150,000,000 worth of ore now in sight. This almost inexhaustible mine of wealth is assessed at \$312,923 and the company's buildings and machinery are assessed at \$582,500, the total assessment being about equivalent to one month's income from the property.

Don't Want Statehood.
These powerful corporations do not want statehood. They can operate more independently and profitably under a territorial form of government, and they stand ready to devote a big share of their millions to the work of preventing the passage of a bill giving Arizona either single statehood or joint statehood with New Mexico. There are other members of the United States senate who are interested in these mining companies besides Senator Clark, of Montana. The interests of all of them were acquired legitimately but there is fear that their present activity may lead to public scandal.

The influence of this lobby is being felt. Up to this time, as far as is known, its operations have been within the lines of propriety. There have been rumors, of course, but members of the house and senate may

find an opportunity for gilt-edged investments in mining property if they are so minded. These investments would be on the square; actual cash would be paid for them; and they could in no way be classed as bribes. But the opportunity to get into such real "good things" is not enjoyed by everybody. In fact, most of these bonanza mining propositions are in the hands of close corporations, and an outsider is considered wonderfully fortunate to be let in on the ground floor. If the lobby operators do try to lead statesmen up into the mountains with their gilt-edged investments, it is to be hoped for the reputation of the American congress that none will yield to the temptation.

Must Try the Senate.
The caucus settled it that the house will carry out the recommendation of President Roosevelt, who, in discussing the four territories, Oklahoma, Indian Territory, Arizona and New Mexico, in his message, declared most emphatically:

"I recommend that they be immediately admitted as two states. There is no justification for further delay, and the advisability of making the four territories into two states has been clearly established."

The republicans of the house, having by their caucus action, served notice on the mining lobby that their minds are made up and they are committed to joint statehood, the question will be allowed to rest until after the holidays, and the lobby will have to turn its attention to the senate.

105 Descendants.
London, Dec. 20.—Mrs. Lydia Roper has just been buried in the churchyard at Great Finborough, Suffolk. She was 93 years old, and left 105 descendants, comprising eight children, 79 grand children, 103 great-grand children and five great-great-grand children.

Red Cross for Women.
London, Dec. 20.—The king has conferred the Royal Red Cross upon Miss Isabel May Clay, Miss Violet Harriet Clay, and Miss Alice Mabel Purvis, in recognition of the services rendered by them at Dharmasala after the earthquake of April 4th.

Punished for Not Eating.
Berlin, Dec. 20.—A soldier named Mader appeared on Tuesday before a court-martial at Dresden for refusing to eat. The court held that this was tantamount to refusing to obey an order, and sent the man to prison for eight weeks.

Francis to Pay Penalty for Most Brutal Crime.
Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 20.—Austin Francis, charged with the murder a month ago of Winona Newton, 15 years old, his sweetheart, was this afternoon found guilty of murder in the first degree.

The murder of the Newton girl was most brutal. She lived with her father and younger sisters in a one-room house in the outskirts of the city. They were miserably poor. She had been ill and Francis had promised to furnish her money with which to see a physician. They met late in the evening a month ago at a small bridge, near the girl's home. She was not heard of until the following morning when her body was found, badly cut and bruised and weighted down by a 150 pound stone that rested on her head in the creek below the bridge. At the trial it was disclosed that Francis had given the girl carbolic acid, saying that it was the medicine she needed. He forced her to drink the stuff. When it failed to kill her at once and she screamed, he choked her and struck her with a rock. He dragged the body to the bottom of the creek and there, still fearing that she was alive and might cry placed the great stone over her head. Francis who is a switchman 27 years old, was arrested on the day following the murder. He professed his innocence. The arrest and conviction of Francis within a month of the commission of his crime, marks one of the swiftest trials in the history of criminal cases in this city.

Japs to Hawaii.
Honolulu, Dec. 20.—There is much discussion here of the question of the immigration of laborers. Plans for a large Japanese immigration movement are being arranged as the result of the making of contracts by which the Oloa plantation, on the island of Hawaii, is to lease 5,000 acres to prospective settlers from Japan.

Healthy Bulgaria.
Sofia, Dec. 20.—According to an official return, there are 330 men and women in Bulgaria who are between the ages of 100 and 110. Their longevity is attributed to their good teeth and excellent digestion.

Frances Prosperity.
Paris, Dec. 20.—During the first ten months of the present year imports into France have increased \$31,916,000 over the corresponding period in 1904, when the exports increased \$56,232,400.

Bandit's Bullet Ends Meteoric Career of Scotty of Death Valley

Miner's Mule Gallops Into Camp With Blood-Spattered Saddle.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 20.—It is now confidently believed that Walter Scott, the cowboy miner, who lately attracted such widespread attention through his lavish scattering of money and various spectacular episodes, has been murdered in Death Valley. On December 1, he left his mine in Death Valley, riding a mule and carrying with him \$1,800 and two repeating rifles. According to a letter received by Roi King, Scott's manager in this city, from Scott's brother, William at Bennett's Wells, the miner's mule galloped riderless into camp there on December 7 with the saddle pierced with a bullet and the blanket and saddle covered with blood.

Today King telegraphed \$1,000 reward to Barstow and Bullfrog for the recovery of Scott's body.

King is satisfied that Scott has been murdered for his money somewhere on the desert. Already a thorough search for the miner has been instituted in Death Valley and throughout the Funeral mountains. Scott's brother, accompanied by Shand Merricks, a well known desert scout, went back on the trail of the miner's mule for fifty miles after it came into camp, but a terrible sand storm finally obliterated all tracks, and their water supply having become exhausted, the men were compelled to return to camp. Later they started out again and the search is being continued.

Before the decision was reached to reconsider the vote charges of "railroad" nominations were made by several minority senators, and counter-charges that the proponents were proceeding in a manner not prescribed by the rules of the senate were made by republican senators. The decision developed the fact that there had been no poll of the canal commission nominations in question and as a result the objection to reconsideration was withdrawn. It is generally understood that the purpose of the minority in asking to have the nominations returned is to permit a pretest against Chairman Theodore P. Shonts holding a position on the commission and the presidency of the Clover Leaf railroad at the same time. The controversy in the senate resulted from a motion to take up the nomination of J. B. Bishop as a member of the commission, which was only sent to the senate today.

It is true that an attempt will be made to hold up the confirmation of Mr. Shonts on the ground that he is holding dual positions—the chairmanship of the commission and the presidency of the Clover Leaf railroad. Action cannot be had before the holidays. An effort will be made, however, to have a poll of the committee taken tomorrow and the nominations again confirmed.

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